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single individual is entirely inadequate, a point that may be regarded as well taken or the reverse according to the purpose for which the examination is made. Chap. III treats of natural ability to distinguish and of active sensibility. Here the question as to whether individual differences rest upon sensation or the higher mental activities is taken up. When one remembers the significance of this question as regards the extraordinary powers exhibited by certain individuals in a given direction, one regrets with the author that Binet and Henri did not demonstrate their formula "the higher the psychical function, the greater the individual deviations," by experiment, although there is perhaps sufficient empirical material already at hand to justify the tentative use of the formula. Chap. IV takes up the determination of the general perception type and the formal perception type, meaning by the latter the type as regards the perception of time and space relations. Chaps. V-VII are devoted to the excellence of the memory and the differentiation in memory content; to association; and to apperception types. Chap. VIII deals with continuous and momentary distraction of the attention, with distractability and energy of attention, and with distractability and soundness of sleep. The topics of Chaps. IX-XII are: ability to make combinations; definiteness and reliability of the judgment, suggestibility of the judgment, subjective and objective types of judgment; reaction types; and the feelings. In Chap. XIII (on Psychic Tempo) the author reports the results of some preliminary experiments which go to show that each has a time in which he naturally acts and reacts. In Chap. XIV day and night curves of psychical energy and the characteristic quality of work are considered. Like so many German books, this book would be much increased in value by an adequate index.

LILLIE J. MARTIN.

Prison Laboratories. By C. R. HENDERSON. *American Journal of Sociology*, Nov., 1900. pp. 316-323.

The author embodies the report of a committee appointed in 1899 by the National Prison Association "to consider the wisdom of establishing laboratories in a limited number of prisons." The committee reported favorably, recommending laboratories which shall be permanent, under the control of well-trained experts, with the practical motive of studying the personal, hereditary and environmental influence of the prisoners. Records are to be kept of body measurements, mental activity in attention and perception, in making associations, comparisons, and in reasoning, a work which has not been done heretofore. It is hoped that if the causes of crime are not found, at least a means of its amelioration may be.

EZRA ALLEN.

Individual Tests of School Children. By E. A. KIRKPATRICK. *Psychological Review*, VII, 1900, 274-280.

In studying tests of general mental ability Professor Kirkpatrick has discovered that the study of 500 children of grades 1-8 for keenness of sensory-motor reactions showed that the curve rises to the sixth grade or so, and then remains stationary, or declines. He infers that there must be different tests for different stages of development, and that quick reaction in these matters may be no criterion of general ability in college students.

M. F. LIBBY.

The Old and the New Magic. DR. PAUL CARUS. *Open Court*, Vol. XIV, 1900. 333-348, 422-437.

The old magic sought to transcend human knowledge by supernatural methods, by the assistance of invisible presences. This idea, strong in the Middle Ages, still exists. In primitive society religion is magic. The manhood of man is to be gained by science through

the conquest of all magic. Magic as superstition is doomed. As art it will live. A knowledge of conjuring tricks is desirable, and the author advises its communication in the education of children.

In the observation and detection of magical tricks scientists are likely to err widely. Prof. Zöllner failed to notice the trifling acts of the medium, which were really the important things. The psychological problem in the case of the extravagant tales of the wonders of foreign magicians is as to the state of mind of the narrator. The triviality of a number of these tricks are shown. The article is a good popular presentation.

NORMAN TRIPLETT.

The Modern Occult, by PROF. JOSEPH JASTROW. Pop. Sci. Monthly, Sept., 1900.

The author shows the relation of the modern occult to ancient occultism, and discusses the present-day phases of Theosophy, Spiritualism and Christian Science, with a passing mention of Alchemy, Astrology, Phrenology, Palmistry and Divine Healing. Christian Science, so-called, is perhaps calculated to exercise a wider influence than the other cults.

The reason for the development of these occult beliefs are: ignorance, a somewhat feeble cast of mind that does not perceive the errors of false logic, and tends naturally to superstition, and an undue anxiety concerning one's own personality. The antidote lies in the diffusion of exact knowledge.

MARGARET K. SMITH.

La psychologie de 1899 à 1900, par TH. RIBOT. Revue scientifique, T. XIV, 353-356. Sept. 22, 1900.

In this presidential address before the recent Psychological Congress Ribot reviews Psychology from 1889-1900. In 1889 the interest was chiefly in hypnotism, mind-reading, etc.; in 1892 in psychophysics, nervous system, and exact experiment; in '96 in *everything* that could help in any way; psychophysiology, psychology of normal and abnormal persons, and comparative psychology. In 1900 we begin to find that the psychologist must *interpret* what the neurologist and physiologist discover. In memory and association good work is being done in study of children and unconscious association, the latter amid keen controversy. The study of attention and motor and sensorial reactions tends to show that reactions depend on individual constitution. Whether attention increases intensity and clearness of representations is still doubtful. He hopes for more theses on the emotions, and on complex processes generally, such as reasoning and imagination. Accuracy can be got, by a firm empirical basis in art, anthropology, linguistics, etc. Sound work is being done in genetic psychology on this basis, and much may be hoped in psychology of character, and of the tribe. Germans and Americans lean to psychophysics, French and Italians to abnormal psychology, and English to introspection. We do not at present want general outlines of psychology so much as monographs.

M. F. LIBBY.

La question des méthodes en psychologie, par M. GUIDO VILLA. Revue scientifique, T. XIV, 357-362, 22 Sept., 1900.

In this Villa discusses methods in psychology. He also advocated freer scope in handling the vast subject matter of human and animal history from the point of view of psychology, and praised the American methods as illustrated by the non-mathematical yet empirically-grounded and scientific interpretations of James and Baldwin, rather at the expense of the timorously accurate German methods, while admitting that the latter had overthrown the introspective literary dilettantism of the 18th Century. His whole argument is to the effect that